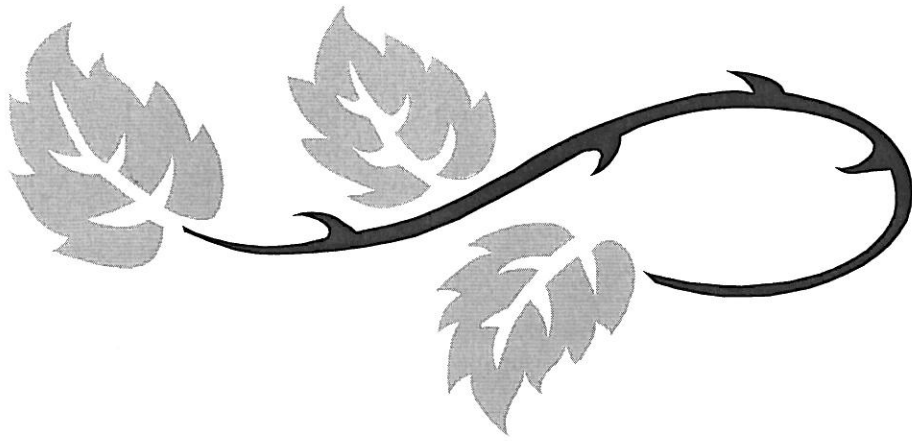


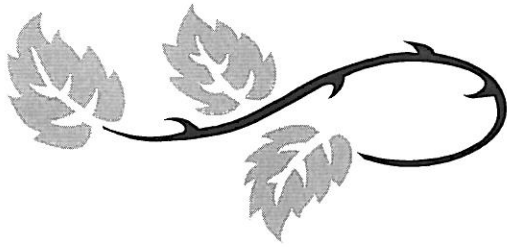


Helmerich Park

Tulsa's commitment to thoughtful land stewardship.

January, 1999





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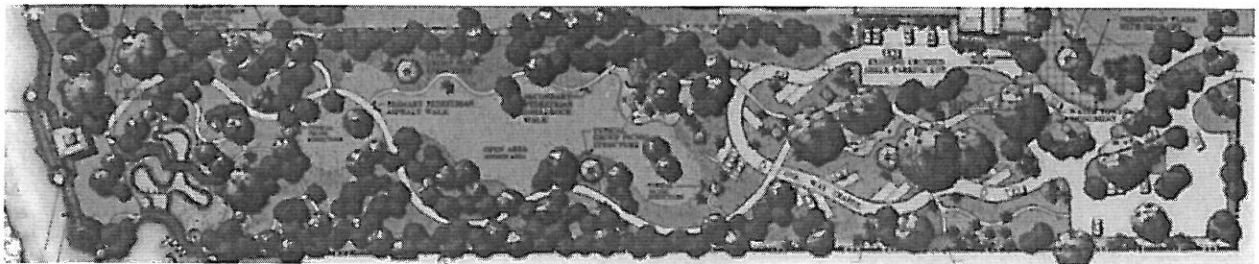
Helmerich Park Mission Statement

Helmerich Park will be a man-made landscape in a unique riverside setting. The purpose of the park will be to provide a fun wholesome family environment where all may find beauty, relaxation, inspiration, and a better understanding of the living world.

The Park

Helmerich Park is a more than 78-acre riverside park in south Tulsa. Currently an overall concept has not been developed for the land. This proposal will allow the City of Tulsa to further develop the park as a recreational attraction for all of Tulsa. The site is conveniently located at the corner of South 71st Street and Riverside Drive along the Arkansas River and adjacent to one of only three river bridges south of 51st Street. Seventy-first Street is a major east west transportation corridor-connecting highway 75 on the West to highway 169 on the East.

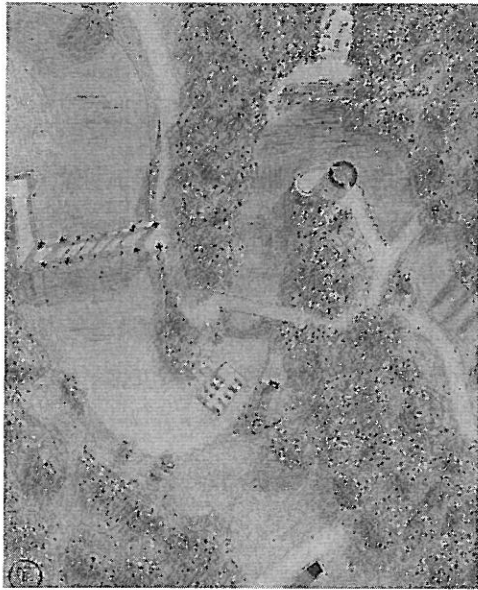
The site, with its riverside setting, provides wonderful vistas and serves as a major node in the linear park along the East Bank of the Arkansas River.



Alternative Development Concepts

Currently a long range vision or plan for the park does not exist. Several alternatives for park development could be considered. The following information is a brief outline of various park concepts for consideration.

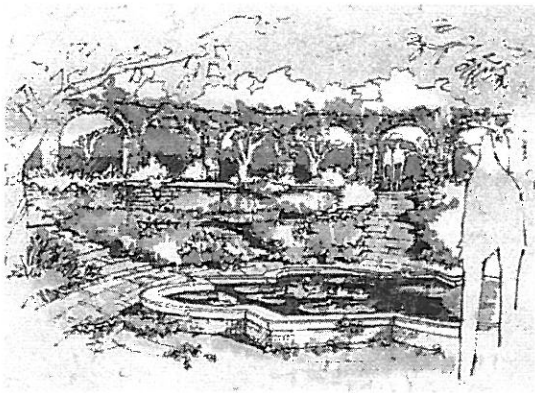
The Gardens



Helmerich Park, with its size and ready access to water, is ideal for the development of several premiere garden settings. The gardens envisioned should be strongly oriented to education of the young and enjoyment, with emphasis on arrangements and patterns to please the senses.

Emphasis could be placed on horticultural and water displays, show gardens, recreation, land management and preservation of natural areas. The centerpiece of the gardens could be the Oklahoma wildflower display. A meandering perimeter “walk through Oklahoma” would tie the habitats and display gardens together, clearly delivering a message that the area is dedicated to the research, study and display of native flora. It could carry this message home by showing native Oklahoma plants as they might be incorporated into residential/public landscapes. The essence of the

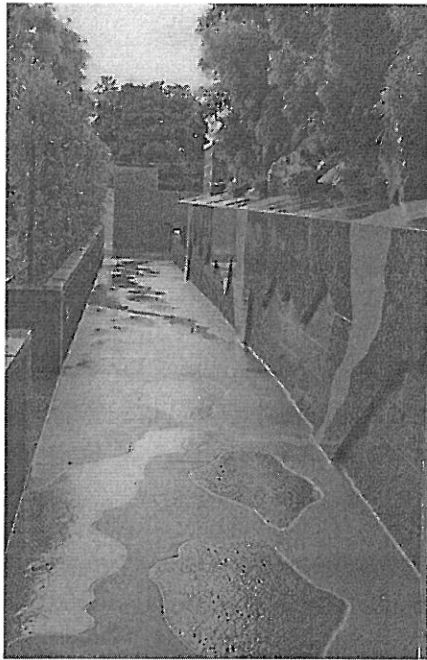
gardens is the relationship to the riparian forest, and the active involvement of young people with the plants.



The gardens could be more than just visually stimulating, they can also serve as a center for rehabilitative medical therapy and as a tourist destination in addition to plant research. Significant new research in the healing powers of garden settings is just now becoming documented. Helmerich Gardens could herald a design that speaks to multiple dimensions of human and plant relationships.

Sculpture Garden

Unlike many previous gardens for sculpture display, this garden area itself might also be considered sculpture. This garden is envisioned as an environment for sculpture with every element within the garden being a segment of a total art form in itself. Art is to be displayed but also art will be presented in the basic grading mounds and hollows, walks, furniture and planting forms.

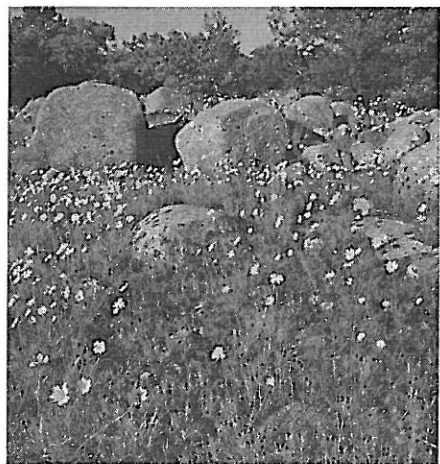


Many artists, landscape architects and designers could be involved in surrounding the visitor in landscape-art emersion. The outdoor landscape would afford the artist many wonderful opportunities not found in works for the interior. Artisans in all areas of expertise will be sought to provide the best example of man made art and landscape forms.

Idea Gardens and Garden Emporium

Ten to fifteen acres in size, the Idea Garden and Garden Emporium will include carefully manicured gardens, which could be provided by the local “green industry”. Oklahoma is home too many nationally known plant growers and nurseries and Tulsa has a wonderfully history of garden and landscape efforts. Selected sites in the garden will be set aside for local and area businesses to show off their abilities in various garden designs. There is also envisioned a Garden Emporium featuring garden gifts of area businesses, a kitchen garden

demonstration area with outdoor classroom for gardening instruction. Revenues from this aspect of the garden would help offset on going operational cost.



The construction costs have not been developed but each element may exceed \$200,000.

INTERPRETIVE ENVIRONMENTAL PLAYGROUND



Visitors arriving to the Enviornmental Playground would pass through the main walk with views of the **Great Solar Slide** and the **Planetary Lawn**. Within **Sun Playce** {play-space}, children would slide down a large sun dial feature and could push movable planet model spheres along orbital paths on recessed tracks. An outdoor amphitheater and restrooms would be incorporated within Sun Playce.

Earth Playce could offer challenging climbing and sliding opportunities on Volcano Mountain, as well as sand play opportunities within three large Continental Sandboxes. The compound and winding slides are the focus of the hemisphere shaped sandboxes, where movable model continents depict the changing face of our planet. Seating and picnic areas would be located

along the periphery of Earth Playce.

Atmosphere Playce would feature a Mist & Fog Tower, which broadcasts clouds of water vapor within the play area. This interpretive tower may include a Windmill Moat, which provides children with fixed station pedal-powered cycles that drive windmills and small water fountains within the moat. The cyclonic forms and layout of this area reflect storm wind patterns, which are complemented by banks of cloud-shaped banners flying from flagpole clusters. A large lawn play area could provide additional active recreation opportunities.



River Playce would offer children opportunities to wade through shallow rivulets that resemble a River Course. These courses may be suitable for small model sailboats and other water play toys. These terraced water features may be complemented by lawn and wooded areas that reflect the general boundaries of the metropolitan Tulsa area. Seating and picnic areas are to be incorporated within the wooded groves of River Playce.

Time Playce would offer children images of our past depicted on the walls of an ascending spiral

ramp feature. Within this interpretive climbing structure, geologic and life history is to be represented in bold sculptural reliefs and visual displays. As the ramp reaches its summit, current human events are to be portrayed on wall and floor areas. At this summit, several vertical pole slides within the floor will provide children with opportunities to exit the ramp structure directly or to exit by descending the ramp.

Life Playce is to offer interpretive plant and wildlife features within an elaborate wooded mound adventure area. Here children can climb through a series of ground level discovery areas and elevated tree platforms as they learn about special elements of the region's natural environment. Full-scale prehistoric and present-day animal models will provide visual interest and further climbing and play opportunities. Life Playce will lead to a Plant & Wildlife Observation Areas, Canoe Landings, and a Footbridge.



Butterfly Garden

Resource Playce is conceived as an array of fanciful displays and recreation features created from recycled materials within an open maze environment. Play opportunities will include swing sets, television box theater stages, tire climbing structures, adapted automobile shells, crushed can footbridges, recycled sneaker sole pathways, glass bottle light walls, and other innovative displays. All site amenities such as benches and tables are to be made from recycled products. A dramatic tower sculpture of recycled materials will serve as the focal point for Resource Playce.

Cost estimates have not be developed but each component could fall in the \$200-300,000 range.

Group Picnic



Helmerich Pavilion

The 10,000 square foot Helmerich Pavilion is an all-purpose facility envisioned as the focal point of the south end of the park. The structure is to be a gathering place for large group picnics and family corporate outings. The Helmerich Pavilion will be known for its beauty and utility. Included in the design will be stone fireplace, catering kitchen, restrooms, and stage area. The building will be used for both indoor and outdoor events. Retractable doors will provide year round weather protection. The Helmerich Pavilion will be a first class facility, highly visible and will get a lot of traffic and use.

The pavilion will be available for rent and with the nearby playground is well suited for family reunions, picnics, parties and many other special events.

Included in the design could be many opportunities for possible donor recognition. The options could start with Engraved Courtyard Paver, a Caststone Walkway Marker, Interior Stone Column Marker, Stone Parkway Bench, and Stone Building Cornerstone.

Anticipated cost including parking \$600,000.



Helmerich Park I

